

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE ANGELINA COLLEGE LADY ROADRUNNERS FOR CLAIMING NJCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to recognize the incredible 2013–2014 Angelina College Lady Roadrunner Softball team members who merit congratulations for their success, both on and off the field. This group of extraordinary women attained for their school the coveted title of NJCAA Division I National Softball Champions, an accomplishment which also represents the first national title for Angelina College.

In addition, the Lady Roadrunners became the first team from Texas to win the NJCAA Division I World Series since the tournament's inception in 1977.

From start to finish, this team had to overcome adversity at every turn—including mechanical malfunctions, bad weather and sleep deprivation. But on the field, this team exemplified what determination could accomplish.

The team lost in game one of the championship tournament, but the Lady Roadrunners rallied behind their defeat and triumphed in game two over Central Florida with a score of eight to five. The team finished out their season with forty-two wins, sixty-two homeruns and a national title.

Off the field and in the classroom, this group of women illustrate that determination can translate into success no matter the arena. These young women finished their championship season with a total grade point average for the team of three point three, landing them an appearance on the Academic All-American list.

It is my privilege to honor team members Madalyn Sumrall, Trina Deyo, Katelyn Barker, Kaylon Morvant, Kristin Boulware, Gia Johns, Taylor Harper, Shelby Bruner, Sage Martinez, Kassie James, Sidney Allen, Kayleigh Roy, Meranda Rodriguez, Samantha Moore, Melissa Boland, Ashley Ingle, and Tessa Thomas.

The team undoubtedly thrived under the skillful leadership of Head Coach Mark Mattson, Assistant Coach Barbara Mattson, Student Trainer Bridget Chandler, Athletic Secretary Debbie Mareno, Sports Information Director Gary Stallard, Athletic Director Guy Davis, and Angelina College President Dr. Larry Phillips.

It is with great pride that I join the constituents of the First District of Texas in congratulating the players and athletic staff of the 2014 NJCAA Division I National Champions, the Angelina College Lady Roadrunner Softball Team. Their legacy is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING ATTORNEY WILL ELLIS PITTMAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Attorney Will Ellis Pittman.

Attorney Pittman was born and raised in Tutwiler, MS. Mr. Pittman is 51 years old. He is the owner and managing member of Pittman & Associates, PLLC law firm in Clarksdale, Mississippi where he also serves as the first African-American County Prosecutor for Coahoma County. Attorney Pittman also serves as the board attorney for the Tunica County Board of Supervisors and is the first African-American to represent the Tunica County Board of Supervisors. Attorney Pittman is recognized amongst family, his community, and his colleagues as a man of wisdom, service, a generous spirit, and passion. He regularly attends and serves on the finance committee of the Galena Missionary Baptist Church in Tutwiler, Mississippi which he grew up in and joined at eight years of age.

Ellis attended and graduated from public high school in Tallahatchie County, Mississippi. After earning his high school diploma, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. While in the Marine Corps, Ellis married his high school sweetheart, and they had two (2) children. After being honorably discharged from the Marine Corps, Ellis returned to his home town in Tutwiler.

However, he was unable to find employment anywhere in the delta area. Ellis returned to work and earned a living on the plantation in Tallahatchie County where he grew up. Ellis worked six (6) sometimes seven (7) days a week to provide food, shelter, and the bare necessities for his family. He always knew that if given the opportunity, he would provide them with a better way of life.

After working one full year and saving every penny that he could, Ellis departed for Dallas, Texas where he obtained a job with a janitorial service, cleaning grocery stores at night. Within two months Ellis saved enough funds for a deposit and first months' rent on an apartment. He then returned to Mississippi to get his wife and child and they returned to Dallas, Texas. Within six months, the store at which Ellis was employed took notice of his hard work and daily attendance and the store manager offered him a job as an apprentice baker that provided health insurance, dental, and vision benefits for both him and his family. With this break, Ellis used the extra earnings to provide a better place for his family to stay. Within six months, Ellis had worked his way from an apprentice baker to a journeyman baker and was able to provide his family with the kind of things that he had always dreamed of having.

Although he excelled in his employment, Ellis realized that in order to do more for his

family he would have to obtain a college education. At the same time, Ellis desired to return home to be with his elderly father who became ill. So, he applied for and was hired with the Mississippi Department of Corrections as a correctional officer trainee.

He then made plans to attend Mississippi Valley State University to obtain a college degree. Prior to applying to Mississippi Valley State University, the Pittman's home caught on fire in which Ellis received second and third degree burns over a large portion of his body. His wife received severe burns as well. After a month, she passed away from the injuries she sustained from the fire. Ellis remained in the Greenville Burn Center for a month and half before he was released. After a short period of time, he returned to his place of employment at the Mississippi State Penitentiary. The home that he had purchased for his family had burned down, so the Department of Corrections provided him with a house on the grounds for him and his two minor sons to live.

At this point, he made the decision not to attend Mississippi Valley State University due to the drive because he would have to commute. Being a single parent and still having to work, Ellis applied to Delta State University which was closer to where he was living at the penitentiary and he could make the daily commute. He commuted five days a week for three years until he graduated from Delta State University with a degree in criminal justice and political science.

Prior to graduation from Delta State University, Ellis applied to law school at Mississippi College, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and the University of Mississippi School of Law. He was accepted for admission at all three law schools. However, he chose to attend the University of Mississippi—School of Law due to the financial aid available for African-American applicants. After obtaining his law degree and license to practice law, Ellis returned to the Mississippi Delta from Memphis, Tennessee and opened Pittman Law Office in Clarksdale, Mississippi in 1996 where he continues to practice to this day.

Ellis has given countless young lawyers, that have recently graduated with no experience and unable to find a job, a position at his law office to give them a start. He realized that most people will do well if given the chance which he learned from personal experience when he needed someone to give him a chance. There has not been a time when a newly admitted lawyer came to Ellis looking for job and was turned down for employment.

Ellis' practice has included representing countless individuals in cases for excessive force, employment discrimination, criminal defense, family law, as well as personal injury and wrongful death.

Attorney Will Ellis Pittman's work ethic, passion, dedication, dependability, and service have made him synonymous with being one of the best, if not the best, attorney around. At the end of the day, Ellis is recognized for his service to God, his family, his country, his community, and the people that seek his help.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Attorney Will Ellis Pittman for his dedication to serving this great state and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF LESTER D. M. CHUN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lester Chun who is retiring after 33 years as Instrumental Music Specialist for the Hillsborough City School District. Mr. Chun has shared his love of music with hundreds of students and opened their ears and hearts to this universal art form.

I witnessed his infectious style of teaching in my own son whom Mr. Chun taught for three years at Crocker Middle School. He describes him a musician through and through and a teacher who created a great environment for learning. My son remembers that he was jovial, yet didn't allow talking during class. "Practice makes perfect," Mr. Chun would say—and of course he was right.

You can honestly say that music is Mr. Chun's life. When not teaching with an inexhaustible enthusiasm, creativity and dedication, he plays trumpet and is a pit musician.

My son wasn't the only one recognizing his talent and passion. Mr. Chun has received numerous awards including the Hillsborough Community Care Award, TONY Award—Teachers Outstanding Nurturing Youth, BRAVO Award—S.F. Bay Area awards for the Arts, the Kent Award for innovative instruction, and the Golden Bell Award for eight years of publishing the Viking Weekly for Crocker Middle School.

Lester Chun was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1954. He attended Damien Memorial High School in Honolulu. When he moved to the mainland for his higher education, he didn't leave the Aloha spirit behind; it is part of his soul. He earned his BA in Music at the College of Notre Dame in Belmont and did his graduate work in Music History at the University of Southern California.

He started his position as Instrumental Music Specialist in 1981 and is a member of the Hillsborough Teacher's Association, the California Teacher's Association and the California Music Educator's Association.

In his well-deserved retirement, Mr. Chun is looking forward to spending more time with his wife of 34 years, Janet, and their daughter Clarissa.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Lester D. M. Chun, an exceptional music teacher who makes his students' hearts dance with joy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JOB CORPS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to extend a heartfelt congratu-

lations to the students, staff and supporters of the Job Corps as they celebrate 50 remarkable years of educating and training at-risk youth. The Turner Jobs Corps Center in Albany, Georgia celebrated this milestone with a citywide Birthday Bash held on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 9:15 a.m. on the campus at 2000 Schilling Avenue in Albany, Georgia.

Job Corps is a no-cost education and training program that helps young people train for a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. For eligible young people at least 16 years of age that qualify as low-income, Job Corps gives them the opportunity to learn skilled trades and provides them with the all-around tools needed to succeed in life.

Job Corps is authorized by Title I-C of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor. There are 125 Job Corps center campuses located throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

For the past 50 years, the Job Corps program has had an enormous impact on millions of young people throughout the nation. As the national economy continues to recover, it is important that young people have the training and education they need to find and maintain stable jobs. I am grateful for the Job Corps program and its mission to give at-risk youth a second chance, equipping them with the resources they need to succeed now and into the future.

I would like to especially recognize the Turner Job Corps Center in Georgia's Second Congressional District. I have worked closely with the Turner Job Corps Center and I have seen some of the best and most hard-working young adults in Georgia and across the country emerge from its doors.

I commend the Job Corps program and its dedicated staff for all the wonderful work they have done and will continue to do. I am so glad to have the Turner Job Corps Center in my District and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with the Center in working for our young people and our communities.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I ask that my colleagues join me and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in expressing our collective and profound gratitude to the students, staff and supporters for their work to educate and train at-risk youth so that they have the opportunity to pursue good careers and lead successful lives.

RECOGNIZING MS. KATIE GLESSMAN

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Katie Glessman. She is one of two top Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (J.R.O.T.C.) cadets from Nebraska to receive the organizations highest commendation, the Legion of Valor Award.

A selection board reviews thousands of applications each year and total of twenty-nine awards were given out by the national J.R.O.T.C. program to receive this prestigious award. As a senior at Benson High School,

Ms. Glessman rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel to command a battalion within J.R.O.T.C. program. This amazing accomplishment recognizes the progress of leadership skills and scholarly knowledge within military and academic achievements within our nation's college preparation programs.

Not only has she reached tremendous heights in the military preparation program, but she is also involved with National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and student government. This remarkable young lady has aspirations to attend West Point and continue to participate in officer preparation courses at a high level of education.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Katie Glessman and the J.R.O.T.C. Mentors within Omaha Benson High School J.R.O.T.C. on this accomplishment. I know that they have set the standards high and have become a symbol for Nebraskans for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE DOUGLASS INDIANS FOR CLAIMING STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride today that I enthusiastically recognize the 2014 Douglass Indians Baseball Team on an outstanding season, in which they have attained the title of 2014 Texas State Class A Baseball Champions.

To end their thirty-three to one season, the Indians defeated Flatonia Bulldogs in a shut-out, with a final score of 10-0. Throughout this outstanding season the Indians had, in thirty-four games, allowed only thirty-four runs and scored themselves a dazzling three hundred seventy-seven. The team's batting average for the season was an impressive .392. All in all, the team set the school record for wins and secured the first and only state baseball championship in the school's history.

With the support of coaches, teachers, administrators and their entire community, these young men bear witness that anything is achievable through hard work and determination. These are guiding principles that lead to success not only on the field, but will undoubtedly resonate through every endeavor these valiant championship players undertake in their entire lifetimes.

Among the individual team members to be congratulated are Matthew Wallace, Logan Ammons, Cade James, Kolten Rhoudes, Grant Holland, Chase Dyson, Clayton Sestak, Trenton Carrigan, Bryce Westbrook, Bryce McLeod, Taylor Schroeder, John Sinz, Jake Spies, Hunter Lee, Brandon Stanfield, and Robert Campbell.

Douglass Indians' Team Manager Bonner Watson, Head Coach Eugene Lafitte, Assistant Coach Nick Freeman, and Principal Jeff Roquemore are to be praised for their support and unwavering leadership.

It is indeed an honor to join the constituents of the First District of Texas in congratulating the players and athletic staff of the 2014 Class A Champion Douglass High School Baseball Team. Their legacy is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.